

## REMARKS

In the parent application, the examiner issued a final Office Action on November 18, 2003. In response to the Examiner's rejections in that final Office Action, Applicant states the following:

The Examiner rejected all of the pending claims (21-32) under 35 U.S.C. § 102 as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,674,287 to Slepien et al. Applicant respectfully traverses the Examiner's rejection.

In this Application, Applicant has added claims 21-33. Claims 22-30 ultimately depend from claim 21, which has as an element a first one of the inflatable sections extending to a distal end of the body member and a second of the inflatable sections extending to a proximal end of the body member. Applicant additionally presents new claim 33, which is identical to the previously presented claim 21 with the exception of the inflatable sections extending along substantially all of the length of the body member.

Applicant submits that claims 21-33 are now distinguishable from the Slepien reference.

### ***Conclusion***

For at least the foregoing reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that the present patent application is in condition for allowance. An early indication of the allowability of the present patent application is therefore respectfully solicited.

If the Examiner believes that a telephone conference with the undersigned would expedite passage of the present patent application to issue, he is invited to call on the number below.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any underpayment of fees or refund any overpayment of fees in connection with this Response to Deposit Account 50-2837.

Respectfully submitted,

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